IN THE CLAIMS:

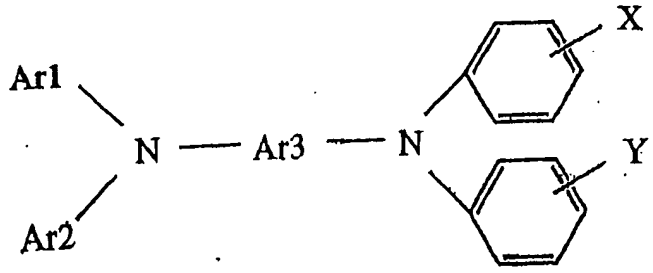
1. to 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

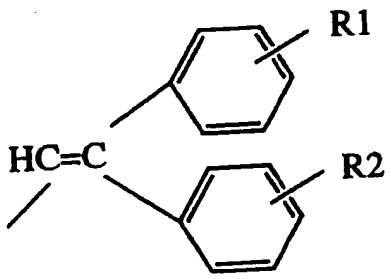
an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (1): (1)



where Ar1 and Ar2 ~~may be~~ are the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group; Ar3 represents a ~~substituted or unsubstituted~~ phenylene group, ~~with only one phenyl ring, the number of carbon atoms in the phenylene group being six~~; X represents a ~~substituent containing two or more carbon rings and non-planarly bonding to a diphenylamine portion~~ a group of the following general formula (2):

(2)



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where R^1 and R^2 are the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; and Y represents a substituted aryl group ~~substituted~~ that prior to substitution with an electron-donating substituent ~~and containing~~ has five or more conjugated bonds.

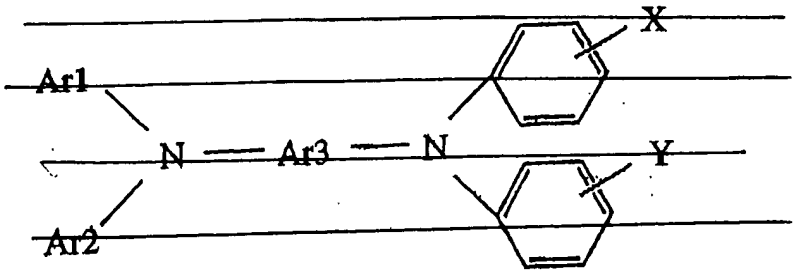
20. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device ~~comprising at least:~~

~~a hole-injecting electrode;~~

~~an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and~~

~~a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (1):~~

~~(1)~~



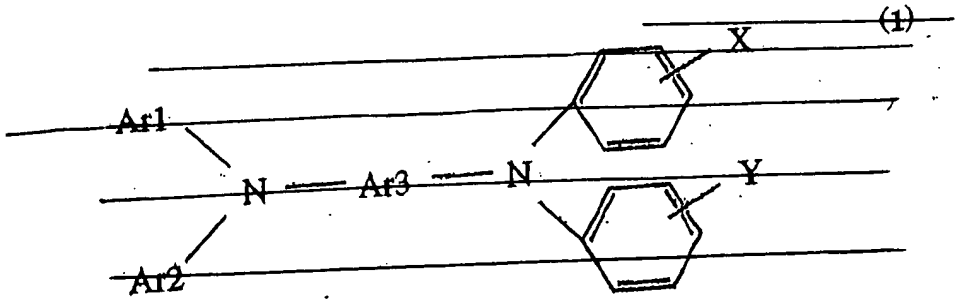
~~where Ar1 and Ar2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group;~~ according to claim 19, wherein Ar3 represents a ~~substituted or unsubstituted~~ p-phenylene group ~~with only one phenyl ring, the number of carbon atoms in the phenylene group being six; X represents a substituent containing two or more carbon rings and non-planarly bonding to a diphenylamine portion; and Y represents a substituted aryl group substituted with an electron-donating substituent and containing five or more conjugated bonds.~~

21. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device ~~comprising at least:~~

~~a hole-injecting electrode;~~

~~an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and~~

~~a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (1):~~



~~where Ar1 and Ar2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group;~~ according to claim 19, wherein Ar3 represents a ~~substituted or unsubstituted~~ m-phenylene group ~~with only one phenyl ring, the number of carbon atoms in the phenylene group being six; X represents a substituent containing two or more carbon rings and non-planarly bonding to a diphenylamine portion; and Y represents a substituted aryl group substituted with an electron-donating substituent and containing five or more conjugated bonds and substituted with an electron-donating substituent.~~

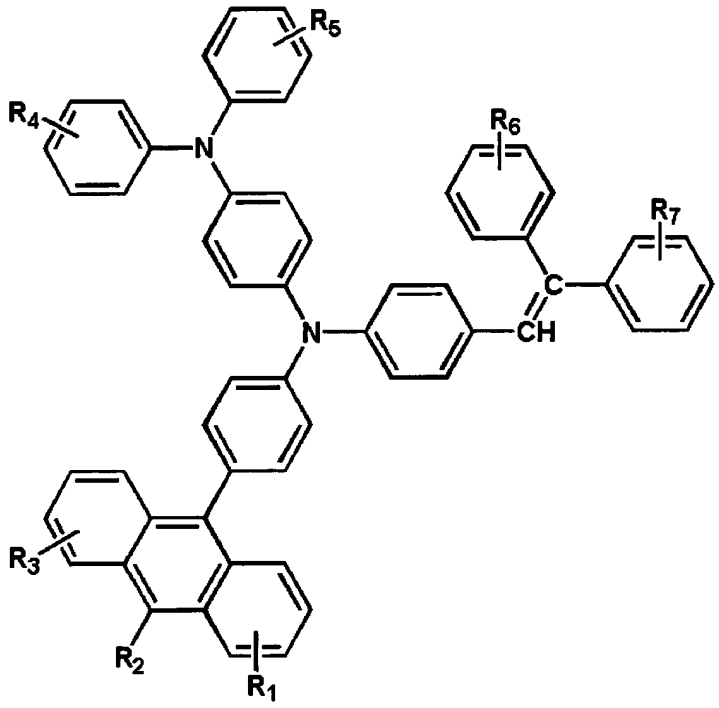
22. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (6):

(6)



where R4, R5, R6, and R7 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

23. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 22, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (6) is (4-{[4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl] [4-(9-anthryl)phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

24. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 22, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (6) is (4-{[4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl][4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

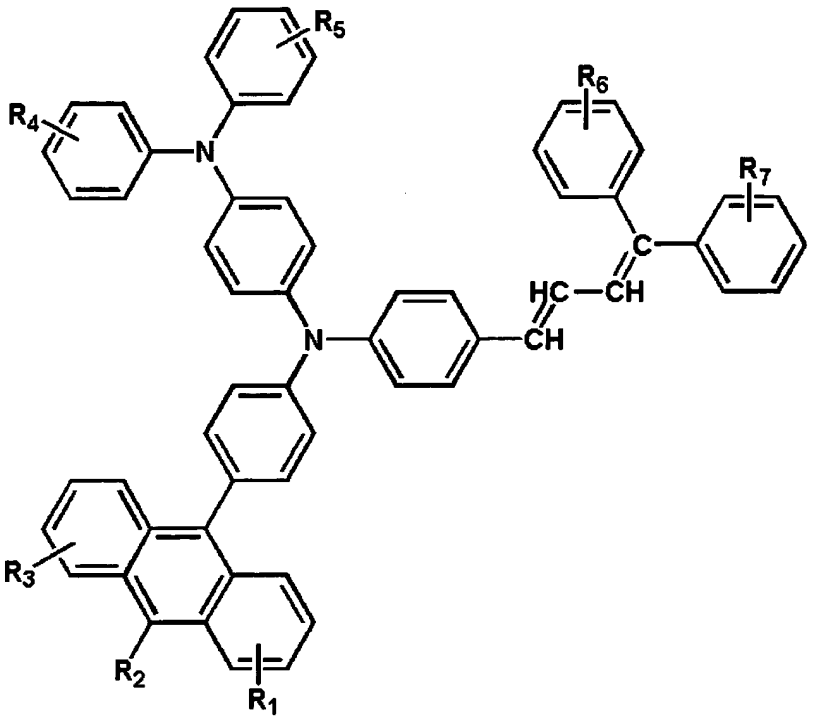
25. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (7):

(7)



where R4, R5, R6, and R7 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

26. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 25, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (7) is (4-{[4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl) phenyl][4-(9-anthryl)phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

27. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 25, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (7) is (4-{[4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl) phenyl][4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

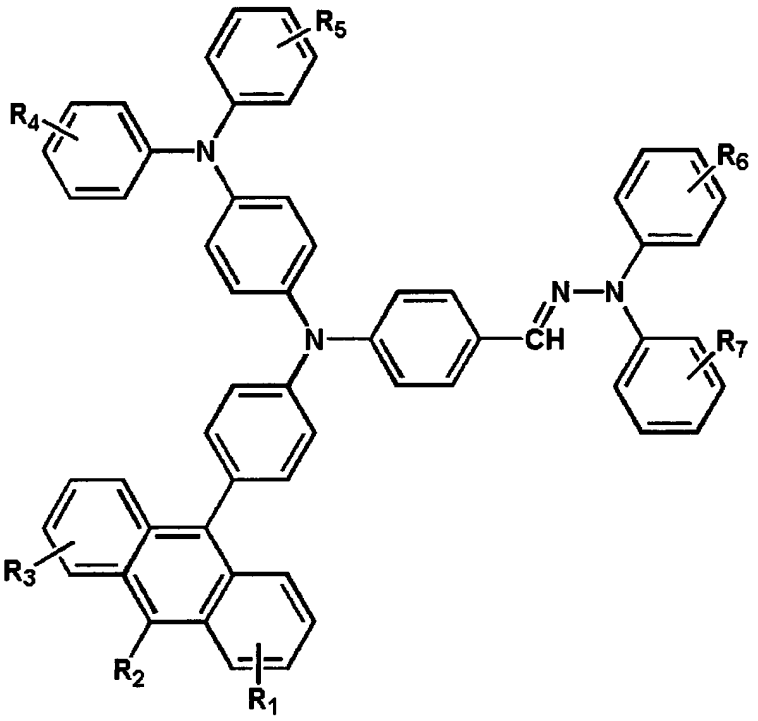
28. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (8):

(8)



where R4, R5, R6, and R7 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

29. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 28, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (8) is [4-({4-[2-aza-2-(diphenylamino) vinyl]phenyl}{4-(9-anthryl)phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

30. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 28, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (8) is [4-({4-[2-aza-2-(diphenylamino) vinyl]phenyl}{4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl}amino)phenyl] diphenylamine.

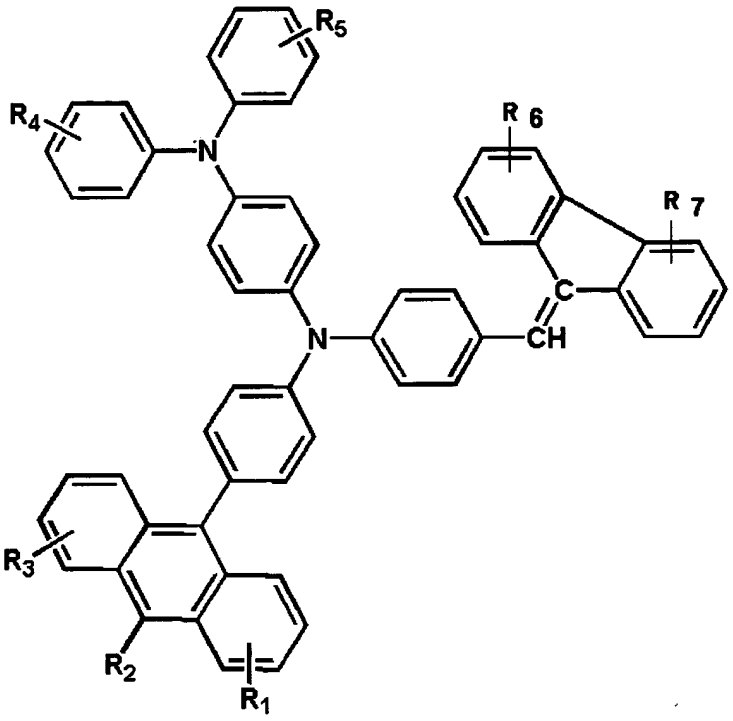
31. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (9):

(9)



where R4, R5, R6, and R7 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

32. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 31, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (9) is (4-{[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl) phenyl][4-(9-anthryl)phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

33. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 31, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (9) is (4-{[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl) phenyl][4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

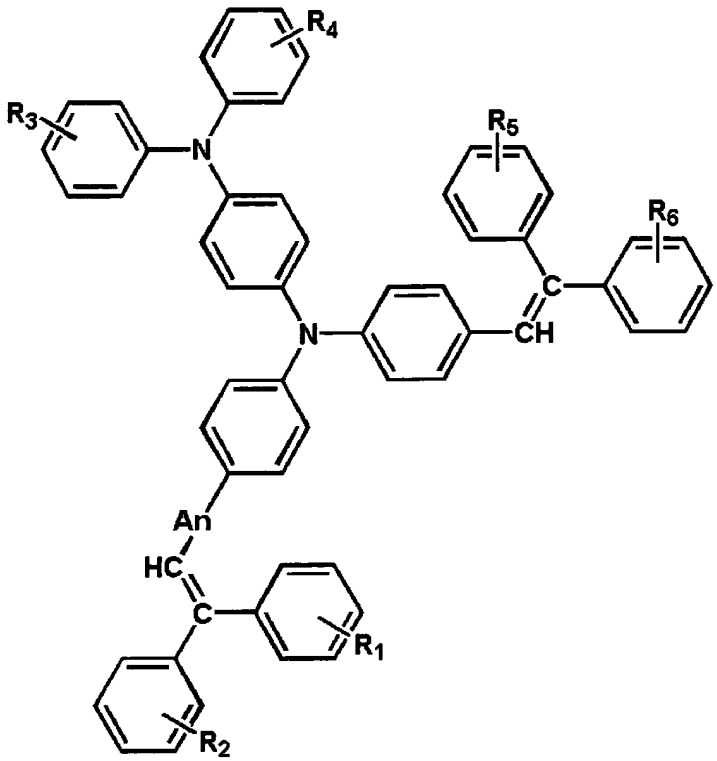
34. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (10):

(10)



where R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, and R6 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and An represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings.

35. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 34, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (10) is [4-({4-[10-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}[4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl]amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

36. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 34, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (10) is [4-({4-[10-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}{4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl}amino)phenyl]bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amine.

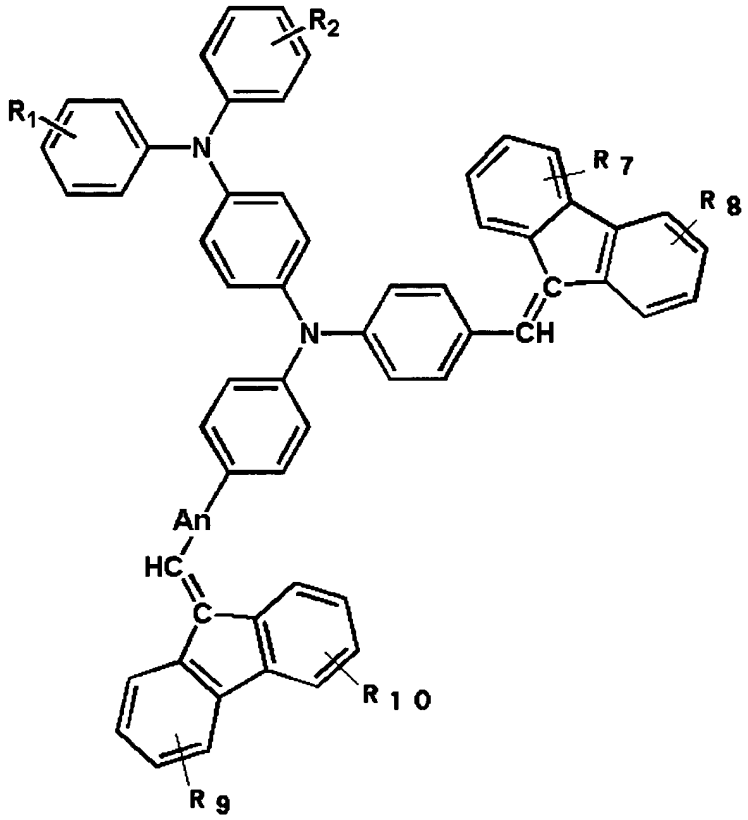
37. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (11):

(11)



where R1, R2, R7, R8, R9, and R10 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and An represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings.

38. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 37, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (11) is [4-({4-[10-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)phenyl]amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

39. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 37, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (11) is [4-({4-[10-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)phenyl]amino)phenyl]bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amine.

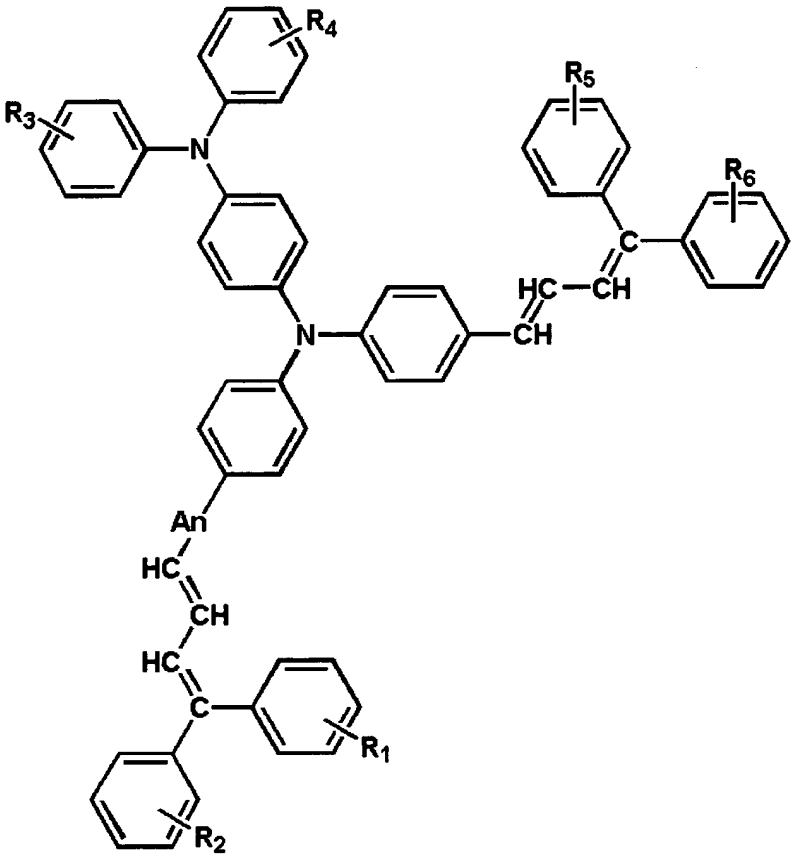
40. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (12):

(12)



where R1 to R6 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and An represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings.

41. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 40, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (12) is [4-({4-[10-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}[4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)phenyl]amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

42. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 40, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (12) is [4-({4-[10-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}{4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)phenyl}amino)phenyl]bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amine.

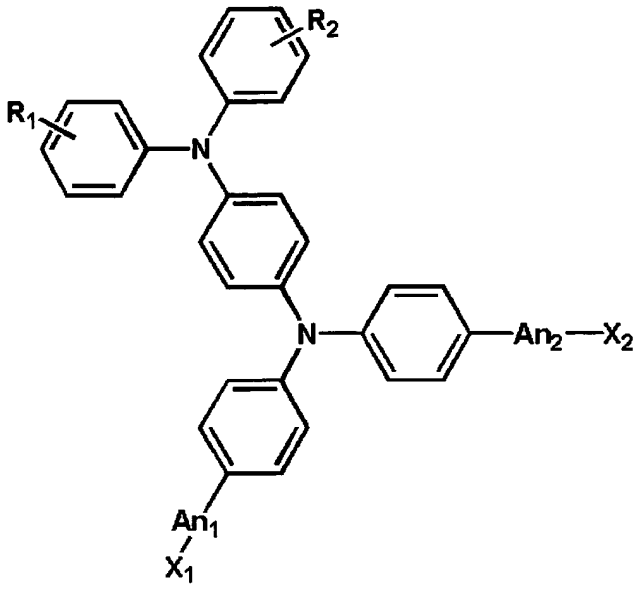
43. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (13):

(13)



where R1 and R2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; An1 and An2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings; and X1 and X2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted 2,2-diphenylvinyl group, 4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl group, or fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl group.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is [4-(bis{4-[10-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

46. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is [4-(bis{4-[10-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

47. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is [4-(bis{4-[10-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

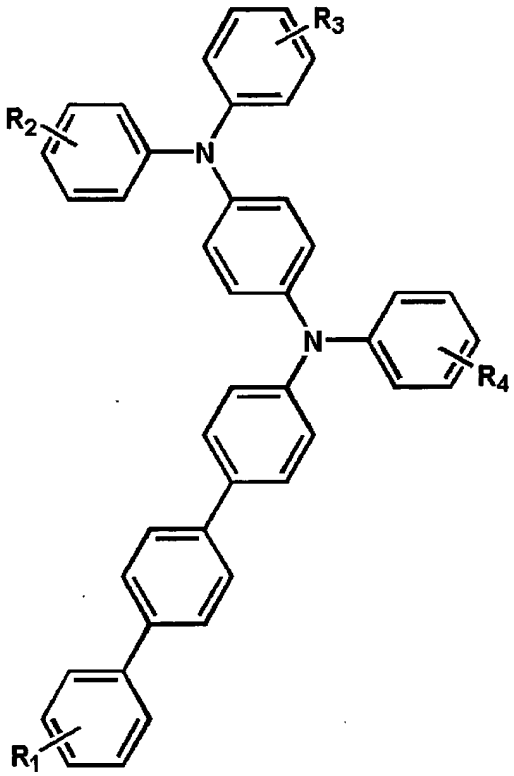
48. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:

a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (14):

(14)



where R4 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, or an aralkyl group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group.

49. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 48, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (14) is [4-(diphenylamino)phenyl][4-(4-phenylphenyl)phenyl]phenylamine.

50. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 48, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (14) is [4-{bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amino}phenyl][4-{4-(4-methoxyphenyl)phenyl}phenyl][4-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl) phenyl]amine.

51. to 53. (Canceled)